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to the Government reserving to themselves the right of nominating a Member to represent any community or interest not otherwise represented.

Mr. P. S. Maruthanayagom Pillai (Member, Kalkulam Taluk) said that, under Rule XVI, the election meetings were to be held in Thulam. That was the time for cultivation in South Travancore. Very few voters attended the election meetings on the last occasion, as compared with the previous years. He therefore suggested that the meetings might be held in the third week of Vrischikam.

He then said that the 15 minutes' time prescribed by Rule XXI for each subject was insufficient and that it should be raised to half an hour. It was, of course, open to the President to grant a further extension of time when required. He also suggested that the Assembly meetings might be held towards the close of Kumbhom, instead of at the beginning of that month.

Dewan's reply.—The suggestions of the several Members are noted for consideration.

65. Rest-houses for Christian travellers.

Mr. K. M. Mathulla Mappilla (Member, Nominated) stated that the subject was one that had been brought forward on many occasions by the Members of previous Assemblies. He said that he could not see the reason why Christian travellers should be denied accommodation in the Sirkar *Satroms* into which both Brahmins and non-Brahmins were alike admitted. When the Government officers of the latter communities camped in the *Satroms* during circuit, the Christians freely went into the *Satroms* on matters of business. It was evident therefore that there was no objection to Christians *entering* the *Satroms*. If the objection related to the cooking of food, there were both Brahmin and non-Brahmin kitchens attached to most of the *Satroms*. If a Christian kitchen were similarly attached to the various *Satroms*, the *Satroms* could be made equally useful to all classes of the people. If Christians were denied admission on the ground of their being meat-eaters, the Member failed to see how flesh-eating non-Brahmins could be allowed to enter the *Satroms*. If there be any rule that meat could not be cooked in the *Satroms*, the Christians would have no objection to submit to the rule. The Member added that he had heard that flesh was prepared in some of the Sirkar *Satroms* in connection with the visits of certain distinguished guests. In these circumstances, he said that there was no justification for keeping the *Satroms* closed to the Christian community and he therefore prayed

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that the anomalous restriction might be removed as early as possible.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

66. *Disabilities of the Pulayas.*

Mr P. K. Govinda Pillai (Member, Nominated) said that the Pulayas were labouring under several disabilities. They were not allowed even a fraction of the liberties and privileges which the other communities enjoyed. He said that the community was very grateful for the solicitude of the Government for their welfare generally and for the benefits so far conferred, which were calculated to improve their condition, especially in the matter of education. By a steady continuance of the sympathetic policy of the Government, the Member felt sure that the disabilities of the community would be a thing of the past, in the course of some years.

In the matter of education, the Pulayas were in a very backward condition. The Government had issued a Proceedings ordering the admission of the Pulayas into some of the Sirkar Schools. That was a great encouragement to the community. But, in spite of the orders, it was a regrettable circumstance that the Pulayas could *not* get access into some of the schools which had been thrown open, and the community, being too poor and weak, could not assert themselves and secure admission. He requested that the Government should *enforce* their admission into such schools, and where, for any reasons, the schools could not be thrown open to the Pulayas, special schools should be established for them by the Government. In other countries, there were Night Schools. After the regular school-hours, the Pulayas might be given instruction in technical and industrial subjects in the same schools at night. Such Night Schools should be opened wherever there was convenience. The pay of the teachers in the Special Pulaya Schools should be improved, and increased grants allowed to the Pulaya schools that had already been opened by such philanthropic gentlemen as Mr. A. Govinda Pillai and Mr. Marthandan Tampi or that might hereafter be opened. Special encouragement should also be given to the Pulaya boys in the shape of scholarships and other concessions. A few among the Pulayas had passed the Middle School Examination. They might be appointed in the Night Schools, and also otherwise encouraged by being given suitable appointments in the other branches of the service. There were some Departments which were specially suited to the Pulayas, such as the Excise Department. The Pulayas might be more largely appointed in those

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